

## Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4749

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS BEIRUT 7405

USIA FOR IOP/M, IBS, IPS, INA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, XF, LE

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - U.S. MIDEAST DIPLOMACY

1. SUMMARY. BEIRUT DAILIES OF JUNE 11 AND WEEKLIES OF JUNE 6-9 DEVOTE EXTENSIVE COMMENT TO RESULTS OF SALZBURG SUMMIT AND PROSPECTS FOR NEW STEP TOWARDS PEACE ON SINAI FRONT. LEADING INDEPENDENT "AN-NAHAR" BELIEVES THAT EXPECTED NEW STEP CONDITIONS ALMOST ALL ARAB DIPLOMATIC MOVES AT PRESENT. LEADING PRO-EGYPTIAN "AL-ANWAR" CALLS ON AMERICAN LEADERS TO REJECT ISRAELI ATTEMPTS TO ISOLATE EGYPT AND TO ACCEPT EGYPTIAN POSITION THAT ANY NEW STEP MUST BE LINKED TO GENERAL SETTLEMENT. THREE LEFTIST WEEKLIES, PRO-SOVIET CP ORGAN "AL-AKHBAR", PFLP/GC ORGAN "ILA AL-AMAM", AND PRO-PDFLP "AL-HURRIYYA", ALL ATTACK PRESIDENT SADAT BITTERLY FOR CONTINUING TO RELY ON U.S. DIPLOMACY. PLO ORGAN "FILASTIN ATH-THAWRA" AND PFLP ORGAN "AL-HADAF" BOTH WARN THAT EVENTS IN LEBANON ARE PART OF AMERICAN-ISRAELI PLOT TO LIQUIDATE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE AND IMPOSE SURRENDERIST SETTLEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. 'ABD AL-KARIM ABUN-NASR, FOREIGN EDITOR OF LEADING INDEPENDENT "AN-NAHAR", WRITES: "IT IS CLEAR AS RESULT OF FORD-SADAT MEETING... THAT EGYPT AND AMERICA ARE MOVING TO ACHIEVE NEW STEP ON UNCLASSIFIED

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EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI FRONT BECAUSE THEY CONSIDER THIS A PRACTICAL

STEP AND A DIRECT MEANS OF MOVV CONFLICT OUT OF STALEMETE....  
IT IS NO EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT MOST MOVES OCCURRING IN AREA  
NOW ARE TAKING PLACE IN 'ATMOSPHERE' OF PROBABLE AGREEMENT ON SINAI.  
EVENTS IN LEBANON, LIBYA'S MOVES ON ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL SCENE,  
ATTITUDES OF SOME ARAB AND PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE LEADERS, AND  
PRESIDENT ASAD'S VISIT TO JORDAN ARE ALL RELATED IN  
ONE WAY OR ANTOTHER TO WHAT MAY HAPPEN ON EGYPTIAN FRONT."

3. COLUMNIST ELIAS BADAWI WRITES IN LEADING PRO-EGYPTIAN "AL-ANWAR":  
"ISRAEL'S MANEUVER ON EVE OF RABIN'S VISIT TO U.S. IS OBVIOUS. IT  
IS TRYING TO ISOLATE EGYPT FROM OTHER CONFRONTATION STATES, INDEED  
FROM ALL ARAB STATES. ISRAEL WANTS TO GIVE OUTSIDE WORLD IMPRESSION  
THAT IT IS PREPARED TO CONCLUDE PROVISIONAL SETTLEMENT WITH EGYPT  
FIRST AND WILL THEN CONSIDER SIMILAR SETTLEMENTS WITH OTHER ARAB  
STATES INVOLVED. BUT REPLY TO THIS ISRAELI MANEUVER MUST BE CLEAR  
TO AMERICAN LEADERS. CAIRO HAS ASSERTED TIME AND TIME AGAIN ...  
THAT ANY PROGRESS ON ROAD TO PEACE MUST BE PART OF GENERAL SETTLE-  
MENT.... SALZBURG SUMMIT MUST HAVE CONVINCED PRESIDENT FORD AND  
SECSTATE KISSINGER OF THIS."

4. PRO-SOVIET LEBANESE CP ORGAN "AL-AKHBAR" WRITES (JUNE 7):  
"EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SAID THAT BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT OF SUMMIT  
MEETING WAS THAT HE GOT TO KNOW PRESIDENT FORD. HE ALSO SAID  
PRESIDENT FOR IS HONEST, FRANK MAN ... WORKING FOR PEACE....  
MEANWHILE, AMERICAN ARMS FLOW TO ISRAEL IN SUCH QUANTITIES THAT  
RABIN SAYS THERE ARE SOMETIMES MORE ARMS THAN MEN WHO CAN USE  
THEM.... AFTER ALL THIS, THEY WANT US TO BELIEVE THAT FORD IS  
'HONEST AND SINCERE MAN ... WORKING FOR PEACE'. HAVE ARABS SO  
LOST THEIR COMMON SENSE AND SENSE OF REALITY THAT THEY ACCEPT  
SUCH TALK? OF COURSE NOT."

5. PFLP/CG ORGAN 'ILA AL-AMAM" WRITES (JUNE 6): "PRESIDENT  
SADAT WAS RIGHT WHEN HE SAID ON EVE OF SALZBURG SUMMIT THAT ... HE  
SPOKE FOR 'MOST' AND NOT 'ALL' ARAB REGIMES. HE ALSO SAID  
THAT HE RECOGNIZES ISRAEL AS A FACT ... AND THAT IT IS MADE  
TO IGNORE THIS.... ARAB MASSES DEMAND TO KNOW WHOM SADAT REPRESENTS  
IN RECOGNIZING ISRAEL.... FOR THEIR PART, ARAB REGIMES ARE CALLED  
UPON TO DEFINE THEIR POSITION. DOES EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT REPRESENT  
THEM?"

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6. PRO PDFLP WEEKLY "AL-HURRIYYA" WRITES (JUNE 9): "RECENT  
EVENTS HAVE REVEALED THAT ... STEP-BY-STEP POLICY WHICH FAILED  
IN MARCH ... HAS ASSUMED NEW FORM AS PRELUDE TO RESUMPTION OF  
KISSINGER'S MISSION. THIS NEW FORM CONSISTS OF EGYPTIAN STEP  
HERE AND ISRAELI STEP THERE TO ESTABLISH 'GOOD INTENTIONS' OF  
BOTH SIDES. WHEN THESE 'SMALL STEPS' HAVE BEEN TAKEN, KISSINGER  
WILL RESUME HIS MISSION ONCE AGAIN ... TO CARRY OUT ISOLATED  
BILATERAL EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT.... SADAT IS BETTING ON

THIS AGAIN FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH NEW AMERICAN PRESIDENT....  
LEBANESE PHALANGE'S ATTEMPT TO ... DISTRACT PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE  
FROM ITS POLITICAL AND MILITARY TASKS SO THAT SADAT'S PROPOSAL  
AND NEW AMERICAN PLAN MAY PASS WITHOUT ENCOUNTERING ANY PALESTINIAN  
OPPOSITION... IS SECRET OF 'GOOD CONDUCT CERTIFICATE' THAT SADAT  
GAVE RECENTLY TO PIERRE GEMAYEL."

7. PLO ORGAN 'FILASTIN ATH-THAWRA' WRITES (JUNE 8): "FACT  
THAT PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE CONSTITUTES OBSTACLE TO IMPERIALIST  
SETTLEMENT EXPLAINS WHY IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACY WAS DIRECTED AGAINST  
PRESENCE OF PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION IN LEBANON. AMERICAN IMPERIALISM  
CAN FIND NO WAY INTO MIDEAST EXCEPT THROUGH LIQUIDATION OF PALES-  
TINIAN REVOLUTION. THIS REVOLUTION IS TODAY MORE DETERMINED THAN  
EVER TO RESIST ALL IMPERIALIST SETTLEMENTS."

8. PFLP ORGAN "AL-HADAF" WRITES (JUNE 7): "IT HAS BEEN DECISIVELY  
PROVED THAT BLOODY EVENTS THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN LEBANESE ARENA  
HAVE IN FACT BEEN NOTHING MORE THAN LINK IN CHAIN OF COMPREHENSIVE  
PLAN WHICH AMERICAN IMPERIALIST, WITH HELP OF ITS ISRAELI AND  
REACTIONARY ALLIES, IS IMPLEMENTING IN ORDER TO IMPOSE ITS  
CONDITIONS FOR CREATION OF SURRENDERIST POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN  
ARAB REGION.... ARAB MASSES, WHICH HAVE STOOD FIRM IN FACE OF  
ALL IMPERIALIST-ZIONIST ATTEMPTS TO HUMILIATE THEM ... MUST FOIL  
SETTLEMENT CONSPIRACY."  
GODLEY

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## Message Attributes

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